

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 00344 180719Z

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ACTION SS-30

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R 180700Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2368

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 0344

STADIS/EXDIS

FOR EA/DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY SNEIDER

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, AS, US
SUBJ: CONCLUSION OF FORMAL AGREEMENT ON NORTHWEST CAPE
1. PRITCHETT IS VERY SATISFIED WITH OUTCOME OF VISIT,
WHICH HE HOPES HAS RE-ESTABLISHED A SOLID BASIS FOR
COLLABORATION IN THE SECURITY FIELD. HE PRAISED YOUR
ROLE AS CENTRAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE AND MENTIONED HOW
HELPFUL AMBASSADOR GREEN'S PRESENCE HAD BEEN. I TOLD
HIM WE WERE FULLY AWARE AND APPRECIATIVE OF IMPORTANCE
HIS PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION.

2. PRITCHETT INTENDS TO PREPARE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS
FOR CONSIDERATION BY CABINET ON 21 OR 22 FEBRUARY (HE
AND BARNARD FEEL IT ESSENTIAL PRIME MINISTER BE
PRESENT). SUBSEQUENTLY, EXCHANGE OF NOTES WITH US
WOULD BE TABLED WHEN PARLIAMENT RECONVENES FEBRUARY 28.
HE DOES NOT BELIEVE LEGISLATION IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY
BUT ANTICIPATES PM WILL PREFER TO SUBMIT LEGISLATION
IN ORDER OBTAIN CONFIRMATION OF AMENDMENTS TO AGREEMENT
AND GENERAL PHILOSOPHY OF RELATIONSHIP.

3. PRITCHETT SAID HE WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH NEXT WEEK
TO WORK OUT LANGUAGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES. HOW DID YOU
LEAVE THIS, WILL WE HAVE FORMAL EXCHANGE SPECIFYING
AMENDMENTS TO NORTHWEST CAPE AGREEMENT? IF SO, ARE YOU
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PREPARING DRAFTS? WHAT PROCEDURES WILL BE NECESSARY ON

OUR SIDE? I SUPPOSE CIRCULAR 175.

4. PRITCHETT SAID JOHN WARNER HAD ACCEPTED BARNARD'S INVITATION TO VISIT AUSTRALIA. SUGGEST YOU BE IN TOUCH WITH NAVY TO MAKE SURE THIS VISIT IS SCHEDULED LATER IN SPRING OR EARLY SUMMER. WE NOW EXPECT VISITS BY INGERSOLL, RUSH, AND GAYLER BETWEEN FEBRUARY 20 AND MARCH 20, SO IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO CROWD THE SCHEDULE FURTHER DURING THAT PERIOD.
HARROP

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